

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENTI 05097 020733Z

15

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IGA-01 L-03 SS-15 SP-02 DODE-00 NSC-05

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4958

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

CINCPAC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE VIENTIANE 5097

BANGKOK FOR USAID/LAOS RESIDUAL STAFF

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, PFOR, LA, US

SUBJ: PGNU ASKS FOR USAID/LAOS PIPELINE MATERIALS IN THAILAND

1. THIS TELEGRAM TRANSMITS OUR TRANSLATION OF A NOTE RECEIVED JULY 30 (NUMBER 344/AE.OIC.1) IN WHICH PGNU ASKS FOR USAID MATERIALS, ONCE DESTINED FOR LAOS, WHICH IT BELIEVES ARE IN BANGKOK. ALSO TRANSMITTED IS OUR PROPOSED REPLY.

2. BEGIN TEXT OF PGNU NOTE:

"THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRESENTS ITS COMPLIMENTS TO THE EMBASSY OF THE USA AND, REFERRING TO THE AGREEMENT OF MAY 27, 1975, BETWEEN THE PGNU AND THE EMBASSY OF THE USA, AND TO THE EMBASSY'S NOTE NO. 293 OF JUNE 9, 1975, HAS THE HONOR TO RAISE THE QUESTION OF MERCHANDISE AND PRODUCTS ORDERED BY USAID AND DESTINED FOR LAOS.

"THIS MERCHANDISE, COMPRISING 993 CASES WITH A TOTAL WEIGHT OF 237,794 KILOS, 58,453 POUNDS AND 4.98 NKJTVC TONS, WAS STORED IN VARIOUS WAREHOUSES AT THE PORT OF BANGKOK FROM MARCH 1, 1975, TO THE MONTH OF JUNE 1975.

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PAGE 02 VIENTI 05097 020733Z

"THIS MERCHANDISE CONSTITUTES GOODS ACQUIRED BY

USAID IN LAOS. IN VIRTUE OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED AGREEMENT, IT BELONGS BY RIGHT TO THE PGNU.

"THE MINISTRY WOULD APPRECIATE THE EMBASSY'S HAVING THE KINDNESS TO TAKE THIS QUESTION UNDER CONSIDERATION AND TO INFORM IT OF ITS DECISION. (COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE)." END TEXT.

3. WE PROPOSE TO SEND FOLLOWING BRIEF NOTE IN REPLY:

"(COMPLIMENTARY OPENING)...IN ANSWER TO MINISTRY'S NOTE NO. 344/AE.OIC.1 OF JULY 30, REGRETS THAT IT IS NOW IMPOSSIBLE FOR THE USG TO COMPLY WITH THE PGNU'S REQUEST.

"AS THE MINISTRY WILL RECALL, THE EMBASSY WAS UNABLE TO REACH AN UNDERSTANDING WITH THE PGNU ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT OF MAY 27, 1975. SPECIFICALLY, THE MINISTRY PEREMPTORILY REJECTED BY ITS NOTE NO 286 OF JUNE 26, 1975, THE EMBASSY'S PROPOSAL, CONTAINED IN ITS NOTE NO. 293 OF JUNE 9, 1975, TO PROCEED WITH THE DISSOLUTION OF USAID AND THE FUTURE HANDLING OF PROJECT-FUNDED MATERIALS AND COMMODITIES ON AN ORDERLY BASIS, PARTICULARLY TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE U.S. LEGAL REQUIREMENTS OF AUDIT AND VERIFICATION. FURTHERMORE, THE MINISTRY'S NOTE NO. 286 ALSO DIRECTED THE IMMEDIATE DEPARTURE FROM LAOS OF ALL USAID PERSONNEL. AS A RESULT, IT BECAME NECESSARY TO TERMINATE ALL USAID OPERATIONS CONNECTED WITH LAOS; THIS ACTION INCLUDED THE CANCELLATION OF ALL DELIVERIES OF USAID-FUNDED MATERIALS. (COMPLIMENTARY CLOSE)." END TEXT.

4. FOR REFERENCE, TEXT OF OUR NOTE 293 OF JUNE 9 APPEARS IN STATE 133675 AND TEXT OF PGNU'S NOTE 286 OF JUNE 26, IN REPLY, APPEARS IN VIENTIANE 4548.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: APPROVAL OF PROPOSED REPLY. CHAPMAN

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